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SECRET

27 MAR 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Public Affairs to the
Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

SUBJECT: Gordon Barton McLendon (U)

1. (UL) Reference is made to the attached Washington Post article of 22 March 1978, which suggests that Subject has proposed a weekly television series on the Central Intelligence Agency.

2. (AIUO) Office of Security records reflect that Subject was born 8 June 1921 in Paris, Texas and that he served in the United States Navy during World War II. He was graduated from Yale University in 1946, and later attended Harvard Law School. As of 1952 he was serving as President of the Liberty Broadcasting Company.

3. (S) In early 1952 the Directorate of Operations (OPC) requested a Covert Security Approval so that his firm might provide accreditations [redacted] to a contract agent. The request was subsequently denied following a field investigation which disclosed a question concerning his business practices. It was brought to light that the Liberty Broadcasting Company suspended operations in May 1952 and went into bankruptcy the following month.

4. (S) In December 1965 the Directorate of Operations again requested a Covert Security Approval on Subject in his position with the McLendon Broadcast System, Dallas, Texas. A field investigation in January 1966 was basically favorable.

5. (C) His 201 and security files show no evidence of operational interest after 1966 and inquiries with appropriate Directorate of Operations components indicate he probably was never contacted or utilized in any capacity.


Robert W. Gambino

Attachment

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CL BY 063344
OS 8 0797

Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - Addressee
1 - D/Security
1 - OS Registry
✓ 1 - McLendon File
1 - SAG

OS/PSI/LJDunn/jhm (22MAR78)

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